



Oregon State University Extension Service

MID-COLUMBIA FARMER'S NEWSLETTER

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Grain and Rain

The average price for soft white wheat in Portland for July and August was \$9.29 and \$8.85 per bushel for 10.5% protein. A year ago the price was at \$8.35 and \$9.94 during July and August. So far the price in September has been at \$9.14, a year ago the price was at \$10.87. Barley prices for July and August were \$241.25 and \$227.61 per ton, currently around \$225 in September.

Precipitation at the Sherman Station in Moro for July and August was 0.10 and 0.06 inches at 56% and 30% of average. The crop year total is at 131% of average for the Sherman Station with 14.44 total since last September (the average is 11 inches). Average precipitation across Sherman County in July was 0.20 ranging from 0.80 in Wasco to 0 in Moro. Average precipitation in August was 0.05 ranging from 0.18 in Moro to 0 in Wasco.

Precipitation at The Dalles Airport for July and August was 0.15 and 0 inches at 94% and 0% of average. Crop year total there is at 99% of average with 13.35 total. In general the airport is drier than most locations in Wasco County, but still provides a good baseline. Average precipitation across Wasco County in July was 0.19 ranging from 0.78 at Crow Creek Dam to 0 in the Columbia District and parts of The Dalles. Average precipitation in August was 0.02 ranging from 0.12 in Bakeoven and Antelope to 0 in the rest of the county. The average crop year total was 15.92 in Wasco County.

We appreciate the continued assistance from our rainfall cooperators in both Sherman and Wasco Counties, providing us with valuable and accurate rainfall data! If your interested in contributing we can provide you with a free rain gauge, we are need of more reporters as the list continues to shrink. See the attached insert for crop year totals. Precipitation during most months last crop year were average or slightly below, but each month from April – June had double to almost triple the average monthly precipitation amounts.

Climate Outlook

June - August precipitation across the Mid Columbia ranges from 110-130% of normal with temperatures 1 to 3°F above average across the region. September has so far experienced temperatures 10°F above average with 0% of average precipitation across the region. Oregon, Idaho and Washington all experienced their hottest temperatures in August over the last 128 years that weather data has been recorded. Oregon average temperatures were 6.6°F above average, while Idaho and Washington at 5.7°F and 6.6°F. Oregon experienced the 4th warmest summer on record, surpassed by 2016, 2017, and 2021.

Forecasters think that our current La Niña pattern will continue into fall and early winter, creating cooler and wetter weather across our region. In addition, it is likely that the jet stream will extend further east towards the Gulf of Alaska, decreasing the chance of ridging along the west and possibly increasing precipitation this fall. This is the third consecutive fall with La Niña conditions. As of September 8th the National Weather

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Climate Outlook Continued...

Service's Climate Prediction Center predicts a 91% chance that a La Niña will influence the climate worldwide through November. NOAA estimates an 80% chance that La Niña will continue through October and 60% that it will continue into December. There is a 54% chance of La Niña still being in place between January and March. Most likely a weak La Niña will occur, but there is a 46% chance for a moderate or strong one to occur in early winter. A third straight La Niña this winter would be rare as it has only occurred twice since 1950. However, we will take the increased snowfall and rainfall to continue to ease the previous droughts.

Currently forecasters are not very confident in their long-term outlook as a fall La Niña can produce a wide range of possible weather conditions and more definitive patterns are yet to establish this early in the season. Over the next three months there is a 33-40% chance for above average precipitation and there is an equal chance for either above or below average temperatures. Drought removal is likely in the southern areas of north central Oregon. The long-term drought outlook is for improvement over the next 6 months and year. The western half of Wasco County is no longer in drought, but in the eastern half the north end is in D0 (abnormally dry), and transitions into D1 (moderate drought) and the extreme southern edge is in D2 still (severe drought). In Sherman county the north half is in D0 (abnormally dry), while the southern edge is still in D1 (moderate drought).

In the North Central Region of Oregon (Hood River, Wasco, Sherman, Gilliam, Morrow, and Umatilla Counties) the next three months are expected to be about 0.2°F below average with precipitation at 85% of average. September is forecasted to have temperatures 0.8°F below average and precipitation at 84% of average. The forecast for October is for temperatures to be 1.4°F below average with precipitation at 88% of average. November is forecasted to have temperatures 0.9°F above average and precipitation at 66% of average, while December will be 0.2°F below average and precipitation at 99% of average.

OSU Wheat Variety Data is in for the 2022 Crop Year

The OSU wheat variety trials 2022 yield and disease data is now available for all locations in Sherman and Wasco Counties (Dufur, Moro, Wasco, and Kent). The disease data is accessed under the "Summaries" section. The disease data includes stripe rust and other diseases - look for the varieties tested in Pendleton and not Corvallis for accurate information for our region. The data can be reached here: <https://bit.ly/3Pw63cx>

The Cereal Variety Program conducts these trials across the entire state from the Willamette Valley to Ontario and down to Klamath Falls, thanks to Ryan Graebner, Matthew Hunt, and Daisy Rudometkin Odell. Thanks to our farm cooperators that make these trials possible, including Chris Kaseberg, Ryan Clausen, and Alan von Borstel.

Ryan Graebner also noted the following in regards to this years results:

- We will not be releasing a report for our Walla Walla soft white winter due to high field variability, but reports for the hard trial and the Clearfield trial are available.
- We will also not be releasing a report for our Klamath Falls soft white winter trial due to variability stemming from the drought.
- Our La Grande winter trial was hit by severe hail the in second week of August, which caused 60-70% yield loss in the trial. Varieties appeared to have different levels of hail damage, so we suspect that each variety's ability to resist hail was a driving factor in final yield values. 2022 La Grande data will not be combined with La Grande data from other years in multi-year averages.

See the attached insert for winter wheat yield trial results from the Sherman Station in Moro, OR. The trial was planted on 15 inch spacing on October 12th 2021 and harvested on August 4th 2022. Fertility was a topdressing of 80-0-0 on October 19th 2021.

CoAXium Yield Data Collected in Washington during 2022

Some yield data was collected in Washington this year for the new CoAXium soft white wheat varieties. CoAXium wheat varieties contain genes that make them tolerant to the Aggressor herbicide for controlling goat grass, cheatgrass, and feral rye. The Aggressor herbicide will not help producers with rat tail fescue, which seemed to increase this last year during such a wet spring. LCS Dagger is identified as being the best fit for north central Oregon and SE Washington and has an allele for soil borne wheat mosaic virus. LCS Hydra AX and LCS Mani AX may also be a good fit with their strong stripe rust resistance, though Hydra may be too late maturing for much of our region. LCS Sol AX may also be an option as it is very early maturing, but offers limited stripe rust resistance and is susceptible to lodging. Mike Klicker, seed manager for North West Grain Growers reported the following data from yield trials in Washington to the Agri-Times Newspaper. In Walla Walla Mani / Dagger yielded 99% of Magic CL+, while Sol AX and Dagger AX yielded 96%. At the Walla Walla Airport Mani / Dagger yielded 152% to Magic. Sol / Dagger AX. In Clyde, WA yields were compared to Magic were 109% for Mani / Dagger and 108% for Sol / Dagger. The OSU Wheat

CoAXium Wheat Continued...

Variety Trials will have soft white CoAXium varieties in their trials this year and will be the best comparison to see how the varieties do in our region in terms of yield. Also it is important to note that Beyond residual residue carryover in fields needs to be watched before switching over to a CoAXium seed variety.

2022 Wheat Harvest Crop Quality and Yields

In regards to yield this year was one for the records with many producers having record breaking yields. The soft white wheat harvest is one of the largest on record at 289 million bushels. This is a nice change after many producers in our region harvested their smallest crop in 2021 due to extreme drought conditions. Many were harvesting wheat 30 bushels above average in higher producing areas with yields ranging from 90 to over 100 bushels. Around Moro many were harvesting around 70 to 90 bu. Lower producing areas in the southern parts of the counties cut a great crop with yields averaging in the 50 bushel range, 10-15 bushels above average. Overall a great year, but not every field was perfect. Some of the later maturing wheat at higher elevations did get hit by the heat wave when it was still in a sensitive stage causing some grain stunting.

During the week September 8th (6th crop week) the Wheat Marketing Center tested 72 soft white wheat samples from our region (Wasco, Sherman, Gilliam, and Morrow Counties). Test weight was good at 61.9 lb/bu, protein at 8.4%, moisture at 8.6%, and falling numbers at 324 seconds. The crop year average for test weight is 61.0 lb/bu, protein at 9.4%, moisture at 8.9%, and falling numbers at a good 339 seconds. The five year average for soft white wheat across the PNW has test weights at 61.1 lb/bu, protein at 10%, moisture at 9.1%, and falling numbers at a 325 seconds. And to clarify falling numbers refers to a test that identifies the structural strength of starch chains in grain. Grain is grinded up and mixed with water and heated in a test tube. A special stirrer is then inserted into the tube and they time how many seconds it takes for the stirrer to fall to the bottom. Falling numbers is the number of seconds it takes for the stirrer to fall to the bottom. When the starch chains are stronger it takes longer for the stirrer to fall. This test is one of the simpler tests the Wheat Marketing Center in Portland does, or at least very low tech, but it is an industry standard. A low falling number indicates that sprouting of wheat is more likely to occur. When sprouting occurs, the enzyme alpha amylase starts breaking down starches into sugar, resulting in flour that is high in sugar and low in the desired starches.

Protein in soft white wheat this year has been thankfully much lower than harvest in 2021 due to increased spring precipitation. Protein has been ranging from 6.5% to 13% across Oregon soft white wheat with most of it in the 8 to 9% range and averaging around 8% during most of harvest. I have heard of a lot of 7% protein in Wasco and Sherman Counties. This will be helpful for millers to blend in the event we have higher protein next year. Higher protein levels are being reported in Washington. Protein levels for soft white wheat are desired by flour millers to be below 10.5%. As a result the average protein in 2021 of 11.3% resulted in challenges for flour millers that were passed onto producers by missing low protein premiums. The ideal balance for soft white wheat is around 9.5% - lower values indicate that more nitrogen could have been added to the crop, while an excess indicates too much was applied. This year was challenging that had producers known the heavy spring rains coming they would have applied more nitrogen in March. We may have left some yield on the table, but given the high prices to be paid for more nitrogen I am not sure if it would have made an economically significant difference on most fields. After a dry year prior and getting docked at the elevator I think it was wise to be cautious about over fertilizing. No one knows what this next year will bring, but soil test and apply what you need with an average year in mind. OSU winter wheat fertilizer guides (Low Precip Zone: <https://beav.es/3tV> and Intermediate Precip Zone: <https://beav.es/3tD>) describe how to calculate nitrogen need using expected yield. You can always apply more nitrogen in the fall if yield prospects change with a topdress application. The WSU Fertilizer Application Tools can also help here: <http://wheattools.wsu.edu/Applications/Fertilizer%20Use%20Calculator/> Consider saving some nitrogen to add in the spring after we have a better sense of what potential yield mother nature will give us.

Global Wheat Market Outlook

Wheat production in Canada is expected to be 55% higher with the third largest harvest since 1908 due to better growing conditions as we have experienced here in the PNW. Fall seeded wheat acres in Canada is expected to be the most in 9 years, up 9% at 25.4 million acres.

Still global stress being felt with food prices and food insecurity as grain slowly begins being exported out of Ukraine. At least their agricultural exports should be doubled in October from July after reopening their Black Sea ports. Crop quality for wheat in Ukraine was lower this year along with reduced acreage. Fall seeding is expected to be down by 20% compared to 2022 before the Russian invasion. One third of the world's wheat comes from Russia and Ukraine.

Earlier India had been holding back wheat exports due to concerns over domestic supply given drought decreasing their grain crop yields. They ended up resuming exports, but now with increasing food prices they are again limiting exports

Global Wheat Market Outlook Continued...

to increase domestic supply and hopefully decrease prices. Meanwhile the Kazakhstan government will lift restrictions on wheat and flour exports it set in May to lower domestic prices as wheat harvest production is up 110% from a year ago, higher than anticipated. Australia looks to have a great wheat crop after timely rains in the eastern part of the country. However, Australia continues to be limited in the amount they can export due to bottlenecks in export terminals.

Thanks to Darren Padget for his service with USW and sharing sustainable farming practices with our exporters

Thanks again to Darren Padget for his time spent serving the wheat industry as chairman for the U.S. Wheat Associates. In 2021, USW/Beijing asked Darren to record a video message to Chinese milling and trading managers participating in a "Contracting for Wheat Value" seminar. The USW team wanted to show customers the things U.S. farmers do every day to produce more and better wheat with less impact on the environment. Darren took the challenge to heart and spent an entire spring day walking the Chinese team through his operation to tell his farm's sustainability story. USW is sharing that story here with a wider audience that is increasingly interested in learning more about sustainable food production. Read the full article here: <https://beav.es/iCV>

USDA Introduces First Market News Mobile App Providing Instant Access to Market Information

Release No. 014-22

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1, 2022 – The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) today announced a new USDA Market News Mobile Application, providing producers and everyone else in the supply chain with instant access to current and historical market information. The initial version of the free app includes nearly 800 livestock, poultry, and grain market reports, with additional commodities added throughout the coming year.

"USDA is focused on building more resilient and transparent markets and is taking steps to promote competition and fairer prices from farmers to consumers," said Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack. "This new Market News app helps create a more level playing field for small and medium producers by delivering critical market information to them where they are, when they need it."

Producers and other users can search for markets based on their location, by state, or by commodity. They also can add market reports to their favorites for easier access, share reports via text or email, subscribe to reports, and receive real-time notifications when a new report is published. For additional data analysis, the app lets you share the source data behind the reports via email as well.

"One of the best features of the app is its simplicity," Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs Jenny Lester Moffitt said. "The USDA Market News app was designed with small producers in mind. Regardless of whether you market livestock throughout the year or once a year, you can navigate through this easy-to-use tool and access the information you need on your mobile phone. Built-in tutorials help first-time users get the most out of their experience."

There are both iOS and Android versions available to download through the Apple and Google Play stores. Search for "**USDA Market News Mobile Application**" to download the app and begin exploring its potential. USDA will continue to expand the features of the app, including adding market information for all other commodities in the future.

Railroad Strike Averted

There has been much discussion over the possible rail strike, which if occurred would have huge impacts in the already slow and congested supply chain. Fortunately a rail agreement was reached that averted a rail shutdown that was to occur on September 16th. Rail employees received a 24% wage increase from 2020 through 2024 with back payment for the previous years of \$11,000 upon adoption. Especially for wheat exports and other crop inputs the strike would have likely resulted in even higher costs. A railroad strike could have cost the overall economy over \$2 billion per day. Did you know that over the last five years rail has moved over 1 billion bushels of wheat. One train car contains enough wheat to make 250,000 loaves of bread.

Fertilizer Costs

Fertilizer prices have remained varied, though lately no large changes in either direction. Overall prices have declined the last few months, but still very elevated from a year ago. Five of the eight fertilizers have decreased slightly, while three have remained high, including nitrogen. Urea has an average price of \$808 per ton and anhydrous at \$1,369 per ton. Both have increased slightly compared to a month ago. On a per pound nitrogen basis urea has been at \$0.88/lb.N, anhydrous at \$0.83/lb.N, and both UAN28 and UAN32 are at (\$1.03-1.04/lb.N). Compared to a year ago urea is still

Fertilizer Costs Continued...

41% higher, anhydrous is up 80%, UAN28 up 52%, potash is up 47%, both DAP and 10-34-0 are 36% higher, and MAP is up 30% in price. At least in the U.S. natural gas is not in short supply to produce nitrogen fertilizers – prices continue to surge in Europe due to halted deliveries through the Nord Stream pipe.

Fertilizers and fuel up 192%, while the price of wheat at its high of \$11.29 was only 135% higher than a year ago. Luckily yields this year helped balance this out with enough bushels produced per acre to pay off these high input cost, but an average year would have made it harder to balance out.

You might find this interesting or disgusting, but in Africa fertilizers have increased so much and are so hard to find that farmers are using maggots to breakdown crop residue and produce natural fertilizers for the soil.

Hay and Pasture Outlook

Pasture and range condition in Oregon is ranked as 20% very poor, 24% poor, 41% fair, 14% good, and 1% excellent condition. Across the United States pasture and range condition is ranked as 19% very poor, 22% poor, 30% fair, 24% good, and 5% excellent condition. A year ago pasture and range condition in the United States was ranked as 20% very poor, 22% poor, 33% fair, 21% good, and 4% excellent condition. Poor and very poor ratings are defined as animals requiring supplemental feed to survive on the given pasture or range.

Pricing off the Oregon Direct Hay report (accessed here: <https://beav.es/iTs>) over the last several weeks has shown mixed pricing for hay in the central Oregon region based on hay quality. Overall it is anticipated for hay prices to decline in 2023 as hay stocks recover from small numbers in 2022 and cattle numbers decline nationally.

For July premium quality alfalfa small bales selling for \$392.50/ton with large bales at \$325/ton, prices ranged from \$325 to \$400 per ton. In August prices for alfalfa were averaging around \$390/ton for alfalfa bales (only premium quality small bales reported) ranging from \$370 to \$400 per ton. So far September prices are similar to August prices with 3rd cutting prices slightly higher at \$400/ton.

Mixed grass hay in small squares was selling for around \$404/ton during July, ranging from \$330 for good quality to \$380 to 465/ton for premium. In August prices were around \$410/ton for small bales, ranging from \$380 to \$460/ton. September prices seem to be slightly higher so far at \$438/ton for premium and 370/ton for good quality.

Orchard grass small square bales were selling for \$425/ton in July, while in August prices were more variable with an average of \$410/ton ranging from \$390 to \$450 per ton. So far this month prices are around \$450/ton.

Triticale in small square bales is selling for around \$290/ton. One sale of wheat hay was reported in large bales at \$225/ton.

Cattle Markets

Fed cattle prices have surpassed recent expectations. Sales in the western states have been around \$180/cwt for 790 lb. steers and \$163/cwt for 900 lb. steers. Heifers at 680 lbs. were selling for \$176/cwt and 775 lb. animals selling for \$170/cwt. Recent sales in the plain states have shown prices for 600-700 lb. steers in the upper \$170s to \$185/cwt. The 5 area fed steer live weight prices are at \$143.19/cwt, up \$0.71 from a week ago and up \$19.31/cwt from a year ago. Dressed weights have also stayed \$28.20/cwt higher than a year ago at \$226.84/cwt. Prices for feeder steers 700-800 lbs. have been up \$22-23/cwt from a year ago at \$190-196/cwt, though slightly down from a week ago. Feeder steers 500-600 lbs. have been \$36/cwt higher than a year ago at around \$210-215/cwt, slightly up from a week ago. Recently feeder cattle have been marketed earlier than normal at lighter weights likely due to increased feed prices for retaining cattle and continued drought challenges across the U.S. Cattle slaughter is at 667,000 this week unchanged from a week ago, but 3.7% higher than a year ago. Year to date cattle slaughter is estimated to be up 1.5%. Beef production is up 0.4% from a week ago and up 3.1% from a year ago.

As of September 1 feedlot inventory across the U.S. was up 100.4% from a year ago. Typically feedlot inventories reach a low at the end of the summer before fall calves are sold. This year the low point occurred in August when feedlot inventories were down 8% from the record high inventory in February this year. The fall calf run this year is expected to be lower than average due to increased cow culling in the mid west due to drought conditions. There has been a 13.4% increase in beef cow slaughter and 5% increase in heifer slaughter year to date from last year. Compared to the last liquidation phase in 2011-2014 heifers are being sold at a higher rate, indicating that this phase may be deeper and longer in duration than during that time frame.

Cattle Markets Continued...

Though beef prices have stayed relatively high consumers do not seem to be purchasing less beef. However, prices have decreased from a year ago. Choice price 600-900 lb boxed beef is at \$254.76/cwt, down \$4.51 from a week ago, but up \$65.46. Federally inspected steer and heifer slaughter has picked up pace in September with weekday counts averaging 5.3% higher than this time a year ago. Exports have remained high. In July beef exports topped \$1 billion with its 5th largest volume. Japan exports increased by 8%, while China was up 30%. Markets in the Philippines and Central America also have been staying strong.

Online Western Meat School

NMPAN and **Colorado State University** are very excited to announce our **newly updated** and **expanded** intermediate-level short course for small and mid-scale livestock producers, called the [Western Meat School](#). This is a collaborative effort of the Niche Meat Processor Assistance Network at Oregon State University, Colorado State University, Montana State University, University of Wyoming and Mesalands Community College. This fully remote learning experience will help farmers, ranchers, butchers & others learn the essentials for direct marketing niche meat from experts in livestock production, processing, marketing & pricing.

This 8 week-long course will highlight the following topics:

- Marketing
- Production
- Adapting to a Changing Environment
- Handling and Harvesting
- Packaging
- Market pricing
- Costs of Production
- Handling and Harvesting

Who is this course designed for?

The Western Meat School is ideally designed for the following audiences:

- Livestock Producers *with at least 2 years experience*
- Meat Processors and Butchers
- Meat Buyers, Distributors, Retailers
- Agricultural Professionals, Extension Specialists, NGOs working on local livestock and meat supply chains

The livestock species covered in this course include:

- Beef & bison
- Pigs
- Sheep & Goats

We do not cover poultry, but many of the subjects could be applicable to processing & selling poultry

When is the course?

Tuesdays, October 11-December 6, 2022 from 5-7pm PST/6-8 MT

What is the investment?

The course fee is \$150 for up to two individuals in your business or family who will share the same login and Canvas learning dashboard. Start the enrollment process here: <https://westernmeatschool.com/>

Thanks to generous support from USDA AMS Local Foods Promotion Program, Intertribal Agriculture Council, and Western SARE, we have support for up to 100 partial scholarships of \$75 off the normal price. These will be reserved for BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color) farmers/ranchers as well as folks experiencing significant economic hardships. **Deadline to apply is Oct. 1.** All information provided will be confidential.

Pesticide Safety Education Program offering Pesticide Trainings

PSEP has 12 webinars scheduled (4 hours each), including core courses (ag and non-ag), LTO courses, and focused webinars for vegetable, fruit, and forage production – see the full list here: <https://beav.es/iyZ>. Cost is \$20/credit. Webinars run through October 6th through February 22nd. PSEP scheduled 6 events in-person, including 8-hour courses in Roseburg, Wilsonville and Albany, and 4-hour courses in Bend, Hood River, and La Grande.

Pesticide Safety Education Program Continued...

The class in Hood River is on February 8th from 8 am to noon at the Hood River CGCC campus. On February 7th the class is offered in Bend at the Riverhouse on the Deschutes from 8 am to noon with 4 credits available. More information here: <https://beav.es/iyZ>

PSEP has more than a dozen recertification courses (1 hour each at \$35/credit hour) available on-demand here: <https://beav.es/iyk> They have also launched a FREE 16 hour course on pesticide laws and safety: <https://beav.es/iSX>. Similar material will be offered In-Person as well on December 13th – 14th in Albany at the Linn County Expo Center or on February 28th to March 1st at the Portland Innovation Food Center. This series will help individuals prepare for their initial certification exam and will also be in Spanish soon.

ODA Pesticide Pre-Exam Training this November at CGCC in The Dalles

There will be two class opportunities for producers needing to take the ODA pesticide exam for the private applicators pesticide license. This license is required of individuals who use or supervise the use of restricted-use pesticides on land in agricultural production that is owned, leased, or rented by them or their employer. Classes will be offered on November 15th from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm and a longer more in depth class on November 16th from 1 pm to 4:30 pm. Similar material will be covered during both classes, though the longer course will be more in depth. Continuing pesticide credits will also be available during each class, 2 credits on the 15th and 4 credits on the 16th. Cost is \$20 for each class. Both classes will be in The Dalles at the Columbia Gorge Community College, Building 2, third floor lecture hall above the extension office. Please call the extension office or email me to RSVP, but walk ins are also welcome.

The exam is computer based and closed book. To schedule testing call 877-533-2900 or go to [Metro Institute's website \(https://www.metroinstitute.com/home.asp\)](https://www.metroinstitute.com/home.asp) Exams must be paid for at the time of registering for the exam. The closest testing center is at CGCC in The Dalles.

Study Material for the Private Applicator Exam:

1. Private applicator exam outline - English. View here: <https://beav.es/iC9>
2. Oregon Core Manual Addendum (updated 1/2020). View here: <https://beav.es/iCC>
3. National Pesticide Applicator Certification Core Manual. View here: <https://beav.es/iCy> Or order it online here: <https://beav.es/iCF> Use student ID number K12345678 if requested.
4. How to Reduce Bee Poisoning from Pesticides (PNW 591). View here: <https://beav.es/iCt>
5. **New: Chlorpyrifos rule** (added 4/30/2021). View here: <https://beav.es/iCv>

Both Sherman and Wasco County Extension Offices have the Oregon Core Manual Addendum and National Pesticide Applicator Certification Core Manual study books available for purchase. The links above will let you view both for free on your phone or computer, but you will need to pay for printed copies.

December Pesticide Trainings for Wheat and Livestock Producers

In addition to credit opportunities in November, I will be offering pesticide trainings on December 12th in Moro at the Sherman Extension office from 1pm to 3 pm and December 18th from 1 pm to 3 in The Dalles at the Wasco County Extension office. A webinar option is also planned for December to earn 4 credits total - details coming soon.

OSU Calving School in The Dalles December 14th

Want to learn some tricks for difficult calving situations this winter or next fall? I am hosting a calving school in The Dalles at the Wasco County Extension office (CGCC, building 2, 3rd floor lecture hall) on Wednesday, December 14th from 5:30 pm to 8 pm. The Oregon State Beef Specialist, Juliana Ranches, and the Oregon State Dairy Specialist, Jenifer Cruickshank will be there with the new OSU calving model cow named Alberta with her calf. In addition, OSU Veterinarian Chuck Estill will be present for other calving demonstrations. Please rsvp to the local extension office, but walks will be welcome as well.

Tri-State Wheat Growers Convention

The Tri-State Wheat Growers Convention will take place November 29 – December 1, 2022 in Coeur d'Alene Resort in Idaho. You can start registering now and early bird registration ends on November 1st. Register here: [Wawg.org/convention](https://www.wawg.org/convention)

Tri-State Wheat Growers Convention Scholarships

Oregon Wheat Growers League is offering four scholarships for young farmers to attend the convention this year. They will cover lodging and registration, but not transportation. You do not have to own your own farm to apply, but need to be a dues paying member or become one. Farmers under 40 are encouraged to talk to their County President about eligibility and submit an application. Apply by Oct 22 here: <https://www.owgl.org/events/2021/tri-state-convention-oregon>

September is Mental Health and National Suicide Prevention Awareness month

Agriculture is an occupation full of potential stressors like weather, changing economic markets, animal health and machinery breakdowns. When these start to compound, many farmers experience excessive amounts of stress, making it hard to remain positive and move forward through the hard times. Stress and mental health issues can affect anyone and today's producers are under tremendous stress. Due in part to the stresses that are faced, agricultural workers have high rates of suicide. If you or someone you know is experiencing excessive stress or thoughts of suicide, please reach out to a confidential crisis support line below.

The 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline provides free and confidential emotional support for anyone in a suicidal crisis or emotional distress. **The Suicide and Crisis Lifeline is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and may be reached by texting or calling 988 or 1-800-273-8255. There is also the Farm Aid Resource Line at 1-800-FARM-AID (327-6243)**

The OSU Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network believes in cultivating rural resilience. Learn more about how to support farmers, ranchers and agriculture workers as they navigate increasing stress levels here: <https://beav.es/5kt>

OSU researchers looking for fallow fields, rangeland, or CRP to soil sample

OSU researchers (Markus Kleber and graduate student Drew Childs) are asking for your help with the development of a statewide map of soil carbon sequestration potentials. This map is needed to support the development of strategies to increase soil carbon. They will hand dig a single shallow soil pit in a fallow field ~3.5 ft deep across a 12 ft square. The soils will be placed on a tarp and then returned back into the pit when they are done – they will be taking a few handfuls with them though for lab tests. Soil samples will be analyzed for bulk density, texture, pH, and total carbon, and you can receive any of this information for your property upon request. What they are trying to measure is the so called carbon saturation deficit, which is the technical term for the amount of additional organic carbon that a given soil can reliably retain for multiple decades, in addition to the organic carbon that is already there. This information will help clarify where soils have the potential to sequester carbon and where they do not. All data obtained at your site will be made available to you, including a figure that shows the amount of additional carbon that your soil can potentially sequester. However, they will not share exact numbers, measurements, or coordinates of individual locations to the public without your explicit consent. If you are willing to let them dig a soil pit please contact them here: Drew Childs: chilmark@oregonstate.edu (phone 541 737 2158) or Markus Kleber markus.kleber@oregonstate.edu (phone 541 737 5718).

Producer input needed for 2022 winter wheat enterprise budget

I will be completing an enterprise budget for the 2022 winter wheat crop. I completed one for the 2020 crop (it can be found here: <https://beav.es/3sK>) and it is time for an update, especially given the unprecedented change in input prices. I greatly appreciate the producers who have provided me with their production numbers. I am looking for additional producers to interview to ensure I am getting an accurate average across the Mid Columbia. If you have numbers that you could share once you slow down after seeding it would be much appreciated. The information provided is kept strictly confidential and the final numbers used are averages. Feel free to reach out to me at 541-298-3581

Upcoming Hazardous Waste Collection Events for Ag Producers

- Hood River on November 2nd from 10 am to 2 pm
- The Dalles on November 3rd from 10 am to 2 pm
- Wasco on November 4th from 10 am to 2 pm

You must pre register here: www.tricountyrecycle.com or call (541) 506-2529

Senate Bill 762 - Wildfire Defensible Space Clarification

Recently the Oregon State Fire Marshal had a town hall in The Dalles regarding Senate Bill 762 - Community Wildfire Risk Reduction and Wildfire Response - that would require defensible space to be created within 100 ft of residences located in high to extreme wildfire risk in the wildland-urban interface. They clarified that if agricultural crops are located within 100 ft of structures, the crop would be exempt from needing to meet any defensible space criteria. They are still redrawing the risk map after receiving a substantial amount of criticism from the public, especially due to areas that appeared speckled i.e. one property is in extreme risk while the other side of the street is moderate risk. OSFM plans on having grants available to assist landowners with creating defensible space as they continue to work on 762.

WASCO COUNTY RAINFALL DATA



2021-2022

Crop Yr. **AVG.** Years
TOTAL **PREC.** of

STATION	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	To Date	To Date	Record
ANTELOPE															
John McNamee	1.46	1.33	1.29	2.12	1.63	0.47	1.45	1.54	2.03	2.21	0.16	0.12	15.81	13.65	62
BAKEOVEN															
Dill/Lindley	0.86	0.93	1.53	1.57	1.34	0.10	0.90	0.88	1.58	3.09	0.15	0.12	13.05	11.09	66
COLUMBIA DISTRICT															
Phil Kaser	0.66	0.67	2.18	2.10	0.95	0.22	0.40	2.09	1.58	0.90	0.00	0.00	11.75	13.70	66
Brook Remington	0.87	0.73	2.25	2.63	2.13	0.02	1.06	2.02	2.01	0.82	0.12	0.00	14.66	11.96	14
DUFUR															
Bob Durham	0.74	1.05	2.78	2.82	2.40	0.54	0.55	3.35	1.87	1.33	0.26	0.00	17.69	16.34	27
Tyler Hammel	0.73	0.92	1.67	1.80	0.93	0.18	0.54	1.52	1.06	1.34	0.17	0.00	10.86	13.11	57
Sandy Macnab	0.89	1.02	2.54	1.44	2.05	0.15	0.85	2.49	1.95	1.62	0.20	0.00	15.20	12.46	12
Fred Schreiber	0.49	0.98	2.61	2.04	1.97	0.39	0.85	2.19	1.58	1.30	0.14	0.00	14.54	17.71	36
Shawn Sorensen	0.74	1.24	2.87	2.31	2.00	0.41	0.94	2.72	2.23	1.18	0.14	0.00	16.78	14.40	8
John Zalaznik	0.73	0.96	2.41	1.94	1.60	0.06	0.61	2.22	1.51	1.23	0.20	0.00	13.47	11.87	21
JUNIPER FLAT															
Dave Duling	0.58	0.68	1.24	2.10	0.83	0.20	0.52	1.50	0.96	1.39	0.24	0.00	10.24	12.51	54
Mayhew Ranch	0.60	0.71	1.67	2.55	1.62	0.17	0.69	1.56	1.21	1.52	0.20		12.50	12.95	51
THE DALLES AREA															
Crow Creek Dam	1.25	1.38	5.18	**	8.25	1.50	1.78	5.00	2.00	2.78	0.78	0.00	29.90	28.28	52
Fire & Rescue	0.25	1.00	1.99	3.22	3.22	0.31	1.01	1.91	1.77	2.78	0.03	0.00	17.49	14.36	67
Ted Tidwell	0.65	1.09	2.56	1.34	1.99	0.26	0.68	3.36	1.08	1.68	0.00	0.00	14.69	13.58	32
Wicks Treatment	0.58	0.78	2.75	3.75	2.38	0.58	1.38	2.58	2.00	1.50	0.38	0.00	18.66	17.31	42
Carolyn Wood	0.48	0.85	2.89	3.08	2.82	0.13	0.82	2.10	1.89	0.97	0.13	0.00	16.16	11.32	3
MOSIER															
April Bachofner	0.85	1.09	4.35	4.72	3.49	0.46	1.29	2.74	2.57	1.42	0.05	0.02	23.05	20.16	13

** Unable to access gauge

AVERAGE 0.75 0.97 2.49 2.44 2.31 0.34 0.91 2.32 1.72 1.61 0.19 0.02 15.92 14.82



Oregon State University
Extension Service

SHERMAN COUNTY RAINFALL DATA

2021-2022



Crop Yr.
TOTAL MONTHLY
To Date AVERAGE

STATION	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG		
RUFUS														
30 Year Average	0.35	1.12	1.65	2.45	1.8	1.37	1.17	0.82	0.73	0.39	0.04	0.22	11.89	1.01
Mike Sandberg	0.87	0.57	1.85	2.66	0.98	0.39	0.93	1.79	1.72	0.75	0.55	0.04	13.10	1.09
Joe Dabulskis	0.98	0.85	2.04	2.38	1.37	0.13	1.27	2.03	1.67	0.96	0.46	0.00	14.14	1.18
WASCO														
30 Year Average	0.42	1.16	1.63	2.08	1.86	1.3	1.05	0.89	0.92	0.55	0.12	0.21	12.19	1.02
Brett Gray	0.48	0.88	1.70	1.16	0.84	0.15	0.78	1.96	1.26	0.90	0.12	0.03	10.26	0.86
Norm Fridley	0.95	0.84	1.99	2.98	1.36	0.07	1.15	2.34	1.80	0.93	0.80	0.00	15.21	1.27
Jon Simantel	0.97	0.82	1.98	1.28	1.18	0.11	0.86	2.11	1.42	1.05	0.12	0.03	11.93	0.99
Lee Kaseberg	0.83	0.89	2.25	2.14	1.50	0.14	1.23	2.21	1.23	1.01	0.30	0.00	13.73	1.14
Zach Blaylock	0.85	0.85	2.22	2.22	1.43	0.15	0.94	2.00	1.82	1.04	0.04	0.06	13.62	1.14
Gary Brown	0.78	0.99	2.34	1.86	1.34	0.10	0.87	1.60	1.58	1.08	0.33	0.01	12.88	1.07
Chris Moore (Walker)	0.99	0.98	2.10	2.86	1.97	0.29	1.14	2.71	1.29	1.26	0.14	0.06	15.79	1.32
MORO														
30 Year Average	0.44	1.1	1.57	1.92	1.64	1.31	1.11	1.05	1	0.56	0.13	0.22	12.05	1
Pinkerton Ranch	0.94	1.08	2.17	2.30	1.35	0.00	1.22	2.33	1.23	1.28	0.00	0.02	13.92	1.16
Clint Moore	0.75	0.76	1.33	2.18	1.24	0.30	1.05	2.47	1.15	1.31	0.12	0.08	12.74	1.06
Shirley Blaylock	0.97	1.09	1.99	1.85	1.20	0.12	1.24	2.68	2.01	1.22	0.16	0.18	14.71	1.23
Moro Experiment Station	0.96	0.98	2.00	2.36	1.41	0.30	1.15	2.83	2.04	1.63	0.10	0.06	15.82	1.32
Chris Moore (Home)	1.05	1.00	1.85	2.44	1.95	0.44	0.92	2.51	1.30	1.30	0.16	0.05	14.97	1.25
Rob Olsen	1.10	1.20	2.13	2.24	1.33	0.36	0.99	2.78	1.83	1.64	0.12	0.03	15.75	1.31
GRASS VALLEY														
30 Year Average	0.45	1.14	1.42	1.57	1.38	0.98	1.19	1.09	1.12	0.64	0.17	0.29	11.44	0.95
Joe Sharp	0.84	0.98	1.36	1.26	0.94	0.19	0.87	1.50	1.42	1.38	0.08	0.01	10.83	0.90
Joe Sharp (Davis Place)	0.79	0.94	1.54	1.23	0.79	0.17	0.69	1.49	1.27	2.95	0.04	0.01	11.91	0.99
Deanna Padget	0.84	0.90	1.88	1.64	1.68	0.29	1.06	1.27	1.66	1.79	0.26	0.08	13.35	1.11
Penny Eakin	0.98	0.88	1.74	1.08	1.09	0.04	0.80	1.20	1.77	3.01	0.10	0.00	12.69	1.06
WB Ranch	0.73	0.71	1.05	1.89	0.87	0.21	0.46	1.25	1.25	2.30	0.08	0.01	10.81	0.90
Lee von Borstel	0.80	0.83	1.58	1.43	0.95	0.28	1.10	1.15	1.93	2.74	0.13	0.05	12.97	1.08
KENT														
30 Year Average	0.37	1.03	1.52	1.49	1.6	1.12	0.91	1.07	1.33	0.82	0.22	0.34	11.82	0.99
Shirley Decker	0.78	0.98	1.17	1.23	1.06	0.27	1.05	1.02	1.98	1.80	0.13	0.15	11.62	1.11
AVERAGE	0.87	0.91	1.83	1.94	1.27	0.20	0.99	1.97	1.57	1.52	0.20	0.04	13.31	



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